

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method of screening for
5 agonists of an oxysterol activator of LXR α transcription,
comprising the steps of: introducing a reporter construct and an LXR
expression construct into a host cell; treating the host cell with
potential LXR-specific ligands; and identifying compounds which
activate LXR α transcription. Also provided is a method of screening
10 for antagonists of an oxysterol activator of LXR α transcription,
comprising the steps of: introducing a reporter construct and an LXR
expression construct into a host cell; pretreating the host cell with
activators of LXR α transcription; contacting the host cell with
potential antagonists of LXR α transcription; and identifying
15 compounds which block the activation the LXR α transcription.